Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH/SFPATRICK/MPH APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFELE S/S:O - MTANNER S:HAL COLLUMS

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O 230132Z JUL 76 ZFF4 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, NI

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: APPOINTMENT REQUEST - COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS JOSEPH N. GARBA OF NIGERIA (SS NO. 7615751)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AF-SCHAUFELE

1. COMMISSIONER GARBA HAS REQUESTED, THROUGH THE NIGERIAN EMBASSY, AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOU JULY 30. THE SOLE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE TO SEE YOU. GARBA HAS SAID IF YOU ARE NOT IN WASHINGTON JULY 30, HE IS WILLING TO MEET YOU WHEREVER YOU MAY BE ON JULY 30. THE NIGERIAN EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN TOLD WHAT SUBJECT(S) THE COMMISSIONER WISHES TO DISCUSS, BUT ASSUMES THEY INCLUDE ANGOLA, SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND US-NIGERIAN RELATIONS. GARBA HAS REQUESTED A REPLY BY JULY 25.

2. THIS REQUEST IS A DRAMATIC DEPARTURE FROM RECENT NIGERIAN POLICY. ON JULY 1 AMBASSADOR SANU, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM CONSULTATIONS IN LAGOS, TOLD AMBASSADOR EASUM THAT THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT WAS PROPITIOUS FOR NEW INITIATIVES VIS-A-VIS THE US. FOR THIS REASON THE FMG WOULD NOT BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"ENTHUSIASTIC" ABOUT PROPOSALS FOR HIGH LEVEL VISITS. WE

UNDERSTAND FROM NIGERIAN EMBASSY THAT GARBA'S REQUEST FOR MTG WITH YOU FOLLOWED MTG OF RULING SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL AND PRESUMABLY PRODUCT OF COUNCIL DECISION.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THIS IS THE FIRST OVERTURE FOR DISCUSSIONS AT THIS LEVEL WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT SINCE GARBA CAME TO SEE YOU IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 5. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU AGREE TO A CALL BY GARBA ON FRIDAY, JULY 30.

APPROVE: DISAPPROVE:

DATE: TIME:

4. DRAFTED BY: AF/W:TWMSMITH/SFPATRICK

CLEARANCE: S:HAL COLLUMS ROBINSON

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TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, NI, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (GARBA, JOSEPH N)
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